AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

generating client message digests at a client, the client message digests corresponding to

client files stored on the client, wherein each client message digest corresponds to

each client file on the client, wherein the client message digests uniquely identify

contents of the client files via unique fingerprints corresponding to the client files,

wherein the unique fingerprints are generated based on the contents of the client

files by performing a cryptographic hash of the contents of the client files,

wherein the client files are cataloged by the client message digests;

generating server message digests corresponding to server files, each server message

digest corresponding to a server file on a server, wherein the server is coupled to

the client over a network;

prior to synchronizing the client files with the server files, matching client file contents

from the client message digests with server file contents from the server message

digests to determine whether the client files and the server files are to be

synchronized;

synchronizing the client files and the server files, if the client file contents and the server

file contents do not match, wherein the synchronizing of the client files and the

server files includes marking un-matching files of the client files and the server

files to be copied to a repository for matching to be synchronized at a later time;

performing a post-synchronization match of the client message digests with the server

message digests and, if the client message digests do not match the server

message digests, detecting one or more client files corresponding to one or more

unmatched client message digests, and tagging the one or more client files; and

re-synchronizing the client files and the server files, the re-synchronization including

copying the one or more client files to the server such that the client message

digests and the server message digests are matched.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the synchronizing of the client

files and the server files comprises adding client file contents that are missing on the

server to the server.

Claims 3 - 6 (Cancelled)

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising combining the client

message digests into a single client message digest.

Claims 8-9 (Cancelled)

10.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a storage medium; and

a processor coupled with the storage medium, the processor to:

generate client message digests at a client, the client message digests

corresponding to client files stored on the client, wherein each client

message digest corresponds to each client file on the client, wherein the

client message digests uniquely identify contents of the client files via

unique fingerprints corresponding to the client files, wherein the unique

fingerprints are generated based on the contents of the client files, wherein

the client files are cataloged by the client message digests;

generate server message digests corresponding to server files, each server

message digest corresponding to a server file on a server, wherein the

server is coupled to the client over a network;

Attorney Docket No. 42P11147   3
Application No. 09/896,321

prior to synchronizing the client files with the server files, match client file

contents from the client message digests with server file contents from the

server message digests to determine whether the client files and the server

files are to be synchronized;

synchronize the client files and the server files, if the client file contents and the

server file contents do not match, wherein the synchronizing of the client

files and the server files includes marking un-matching files of the client

files and the server files to be copied to a repository for matching to be

synchronized at a later time;

perform a post-synchronization match of the client message digests with the

server message digests and, if the client message digests do not match the

server message digests, detect one or more client files corresponding to

one or more unmatched client message digests, and tag the one or more

client files; and

re-synchronize the client files and the server files, the re-synchronization

including copying the one or more client files to the server such that the

client message digests and the server message digests are matched.

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the cryptographic hash

comprises 128 to 160 bits.

Claims 13-19 (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions which, when

executed, cause a machine to:

generate client message digests at a client, the client message digests corresponding to

client files stored on the client, wherein each client message digest corresponds to

each client file on the client, wherien the client message digests uniquely identify

contents of the client files via unique fingerprints corresponding to the client files,

wherein the unique fingerprints are generated based on the contents of the client

files by performing a cryptographic hash of the contents of the client files,

wherein the client files are cataloged by the client message digests;

generate server message digests corresponding to server files, each server message digest

corresponding to a server file on a server, wherein the server is coupled to the

client over a network;

prior to synchronizing the client files with the server files, match client file contents from

the client message digests with server file contents from the server message

digests to determine whether the client files and the server files are to be

synchronized;

synchronize the client files and the server files, if the client file contents and the server

file contents do not match, wherein the synchronizing of the client files and the

server files includes marking un-matching files of the client files and the server

files to be copied to a repository for matching to be synchronized at a later time;

perform a post-synchronization match of the client message digests with the server

message digests and, if the client message digests do not match the server

message digests, detect one or more client files corresponding to one or more

unmatched client message digests, and tag the one or more client files; and

re-synchronize the client files and the server files, the re-synchronization including

copying the one or more client files to the server such that the client message

digests and the server message digests are matched.

Claims 21-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the processor is further to add

client file contents that are missing on the server to the server.

30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the processor is further to .

combine the client message digests into a single client message digest.

31. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the

instructions when executed to perform synchronization, further cause the machine to add

client file contents that are missing on the server to the server.

32. (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the processor

is further to combine the client message digests into a single client message digest.